

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Action is in response to Applicant's Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on February 22, 2010. Claims **1, 3-11, 13-20, 43-45 and 47-52** are still pending in the present application.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on February 22, 2010 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims **1, 3-11, 13-20, 43-45 and 47-52** are allowed.
4. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
Consider claims 1, 3-11, 13-20, 43-45 and 47-52, Applicant's remarks and amendments included in a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on February 22, 2010 have been considered and found to be persuasive. In agreement with the Applicant's remarks and amendments, claims 1, 3-11, 13-20, 43-45 and 47-52 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Marcos Batista, whose telephone number is (571) 270-5209. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez can be reached at (571) 272-7915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Application/Control Number: 10/576,899
Art Unit: 2617

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*/Marcos Batista/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617
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